

LANCE STORM KICKS BUTT!! and other stuff I saw or read this week!:) )

Howdy!

I got a lot of little things that don't warrant their own post so I figured I'd stick them all together so as to rise above their own individual insignificance. I recently got a bunch of tapes I'm in the process of watching so I figured I would comment on some things I saw and I would comment on stuff I've read on the web. Yes! I am that WILD!

-I watched the WAR Super Heavy Tagteam tournament from last December, and it was the mixed bag of mixed bags! The absolute highlight was the Japanese debut of Lance Storm. JIMINY CRICKETS! I'd only seen a couple of SMW Thrillseekers matches with him in it and I wasn't prepared to be blown away like I was. I'm sure that the fact that Chris Jericho was his opponent had something to do with it but one can't detract from the awesome display he pulled off. My favorite moves were the somersault plancha and the Kyoko Inoue Blind Elbow after running up the turnbuckle. Jericho also ruled, and he really facilitated a great debut for his former partner. Somebody had better sign both of these guys quick (though I read from Micasa that Jericho is to start for WCW next month.)

The other highlights were the Mochizuki/Tatsumi Kitahara vs Gedo/Jado match, Fuyuki/Shinobu Kandori vs Tenryu/Ultimo Dragon and the Ultimo Dragon/Tenryu vs Gedo/Jado matches. Kandori was particularly good against Dragon, though she was pretty loose with him, it's not like he is Hotta or anything. Mochizuki rules and I would like to see a match that he actually wins in.:) I had never seen Kitahara before and he's about as stiff as you'd ever want. Gedo is actually starting to grow on me, so long as I don't have to see the little pants of Fuyuki ever again. The lowlights were -get ready- El Gigante! and Typhoon! Guess what! They both still really suck! El Gigante sucks more than he used to which is pretty incredible in my book. All in all, the good stuff was good enough to outweigh the bad stuff.

-I saw the Blizzard Yuki vs Chapparita Delfin match from March. Asari still isn't good yet, but the Skytwister press is one of the coolest moves on earth and there is a choice one in this match. The mask was weird enough but the baggy shorts were ultimate fashion faux pas. Sakie Hasegawa makes my heart skip a beat when she enters my TV screen. WOTTA BABE!:) It also had the beautiful Super Delfin vs La Pantera match. La Pantera really tears it up in this one, and he proved to me that he would be considered one of the greatest luchadores around today if his outfit wasn't so hideous. Great match though.

Also on the tape was a Champ Forum BattleArts which looked like fourth rate Pancrase or third rate UWFi. It did have one impressive shoot wrestler in Axe Thunder Otsuka, who had a WHOLE lot of speed and hit real hard.

-I watched the Rey Misterio Jr/Psicosis match from 3/1/96 and it was memorable for the usual reasons and was set apart by the crazy chairshot bonanza at the end. Chairshots are so much more effective when they are an afterthought to spicing up an already technically sound. The

undercard was varied between somewhat okay and totally unwatchable. Halloween has the best intro in all of AAA.

The Ultimo Dragon/Misterio rumor is back up and running, so I'm stoked I guess. Of course, this match will take place in front of a batch of redneck bikers, so who knows how it will turn out (my guess: ugly!). With this, Malenko/Benoit and the Nakano match (if Madusa is willing to work at all) will make it three WCW PPV in a row for me, a new record!:) )

I'm still waiting to see this Psicosis/Billy Kidman thing to see if I must kill or just torture someone.:)

-I watched an eight hour Cactus Jack tape which absolutely ruled (God bless Phil!) After watching all 600 spectacular interviws, I would say that Herb is just restating the same thing that Cactus Jack said during the Dreamer feud when he criticizes ECW vampires. That period has to be the alltime pinnacle of interviws by anyone ever. I've noticed that Mankind is starting to pick up steam in the interviw department with the Jake Roberts religious overtones angle. Hopefully, this will produce something 1/10 as good as the great tangents that he went off on in his stint with ECW. Hopefully, Vince will have sense to let him go to it without sterilizing it to much.

-I made a tape this week that had my favorite non-Mexican Lucha Libre match: Great Sasuke/Kendo/Shimoda vs Super Delfin/Gran Naniwa/Sakie Hasegawa from last December. What a great mix of highspots and comedy spots, lifted directly from their Mexican counterparts- add this to the total charm and state-of-the art highspots that permeates all good Michinoku Pro matches, whatcha get is a very special match, especially the chemistry between Delfin, Naniwa, and Sakie. And who is this Kendo and why isn't he internationally famous?

-I watched IWA 5 Death Matches this week and the Silver King matches kicked the death matches asses so bad it was amazing. Silver King rules the freaking world.

-In case anyone was wondering: the people who can wrestle in FMW are Ooyo, Tanaka, Hayabusa, and the new, improved Gladiator. The rest kinda suck.

Gotta go watch three months of GAEA and a batch of Great Sasuke, so I gotta go!